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## **REOC Spot Report #2: EPA Region 08, Oil Wellhead discharge, Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Valley County, Montana. NRC # 1210767**

### **US Environmental Protection Agency**

**Report as of: 1030 MDT May 1, 2018**

**Overview:** 1525 MDT on April 30, 2018, Mr. Wilfred Lambert of the Fort Peck Tribal Office of Environmental Compliance reported to the NRC a discharge of 90,000 bbls. of brine along with 600 bbls. of crude oil from an Anadarko Wellhead (owned by Anadarko Minerals Incorporated-AMI). The discharge has been on-going for some time and the quantity estimates were described as order of magnitude only. OSC Dhieux met with Mr. Wilfred on scene at 1600 MDT on May 1, 2018 where he provided this background on the incident:

The spill was initially identified by a farmer flying overhead early Friday morning April 27. It was subsequently reported to Wilfred and to AMI's local contractor. The well had been shut in on Dec 29, 2017 due to snow. No one checked on the well after it was shut in. At some point, the wellhead cracked and began releasing the oil/water emulsion. The well typically produces 600-800 bbls per day of brine, and 5-8 bbls per day of oil. BLM estimated the release over 120 days which would be 72,000-96,000 bbls brine and 600-960 bbls oil. BLM indicated that AMI believes the well only discharged for 100 days, which is still over 72,000 bbls. of brine and 500 bbls. of oil. BLM manages the minerals for the well and is documenting the lost oil for royalty calculations.

**State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:** Tribal Officials have notified the NRC and BLM and have been overseeing Anadarko's response efforts. The Tribe is also participating in the onsite Incident Command System.

**EPA Actions:** On the afternoon of May 1, 2018 OSC Dhieux met with Wilfred Lambert of the Tribe, Brian Hubell with BLM, and Allen Parrent, the AMI representative. They conducted a

Site inspection from the wellhead down to the stock dams and past toward Porcupine Creek. tock pond. The drainage area between the wellhead and the dam was heavily oiled, and there was oil on the pond behind the dam as well. AMI had contractor crews recovering oil from the pond during this inspection, but had not started to address the oil along the drainage corridor. On the morning of May 2, 2018 OSC Dhieux issued AMI both a Notice of Federal Interest and a CWA 311(c) Field Order requiring AMI to develop and implement a comprehensive clean-up plan.

Please visit our website for up-to-date information about the response:  
[response.epa.gov/anadarkofortpeck](https://response.epa.gov/anadarkofortpeck)

**Media Interest:** Unknown.